

TO: MTEAF Board
FROM: Innovative and Technologically Advanced Grant Raters;
 Submitted by Linda Lord, Grant Manager
RE: Grants Recommended for Funding
DATE: April 10, 2002

M.S.A.D. # 4 Abbott, Cambridge, Guilford, Parkman, Sangerville, Wellington

Rating 91.8

Impacts: Citizens of each of the above communities as well as Piscataquis Community H.S., Guilford Memorial Library, Sangerville Public Library and the Piscataquis County Economic Development Council. Funding from this Innovative...Grant will be used as a source of matching funds in a Community Technology Learning Center Grant Application this spring.

Outcomes:

Will provide laptops at the high school level so that teachers and students may have a wireless networking environment. Students WILL be allowed to take the laptops home with them so that they can be used as “family” computers. Project emphasizes parent training and support. Parents will be involved in training sessions before students can take laptops home. Wireless networks will be installed in three (now two) area public libraries to reach members of the community who don’t have children in school. Laptops will be housed at two town libraries and will be available for sign out to any citizen who has completed a laptop training session. Public library staff and school staff will undergo training sessions. Grant funding will be used to pay staff to work on curriculum integrations as well as paying for experts to help teach the teachers how to use these tools effectively.

An opportunity will be provided for the adult population to learn how to use the new technologies available to the students and to provide them with a community wide network to improve local communications. The existing First Class Messaging System will be expanded to create a virtual community for the area.

This area is economically challenged. Little demographic data is available in terms of local job skills, capabilities, etc. This project will provide the area with an assessment and evaluation system that will allow this type of data to be collected in addition to providing salable skills to all members of the involved communities.

Project cost: \$533,000

MTEAF Request: **\$300,000**

100 wireless laptops with software	\$135,000
Wireless networks in each school and public library	\$20,000
Staff training and curriculum development	\$40,000
Technical support and installation	\$20,000
Evaluation and assessment system, hardware, software development	\$30,000
Training for students and adults	\$50,000
Additional staffing for libraries and learning centers	\$30,000
Matching funds provide for more training, contractors, consultants, licenses, service, and maintenance.	

M.S.A.D. #59, Madison, Athens, Starks**Rating 88.6**

Impacts: All SAD 59 residents including Cyber Seniors... A new WAN will connect Madison Area Memorial High School, Madison Junior High, Athens Elementary School, Starks Elementary School, Madison Elementary School, Madison Public Library, Madison Area Health Center, the Madison Town Office.

Outcomes: To provide unique learning opportunities through the use of the ATM system and a new mobile information center that will provide an information literacy program for all SAD 59 residents. The program will also be available to K-12 students. In order to achieve these outcomes the district will set up a WAN and create a wireless mobile information center. These will allow all residents to access resources at many convenient locations.

A WAN will be established to connect the above sites; the creation of a 24 laptop wireless mobile information center will allow the district to offer the new information literacy program designed last year to daytime students, other community groups, and to share it with others statewide over the ATM system

housed at the high school. This project will also allow the Madison area to share demonstrations of the CD portfolio program now being piloted. Last year SAD 39 created a written comprehensive computer and information literacy curriculum that identified skills that students will acquire at each grade level district wide. Lessons teach students to locate information relevant to their learning needs, how to evaluate this information and use it properly. Instruction emphasizes use of online databases, local and statewide online card catalogs, online reference sources and learning successful search strategies for location information on the Internet. These are skills that students can use to successfully locate information throughout their adult lives.

The staff of Cyber Seniors has agreed to train local volunteers to provide seniors with instruction based on a curriculum designed to address the special physical needs, learning capabilities, and interests of senior citizens.

The mobile information center will provide learning and job training opportunities requested by K-12 students and adults.

Project cost: Estimated at	\$91,540
MTEAF Request:	\$81,858

Cyber Seniors training	\$750
Wire for internal connections	\$30,000
Mobile computers and cart	\$43,590
Internal wireless connections	\$2,000
Staff training	\$518

Maine State Library

Rating: 86.8

Impacts: Original request – 100 public libraries

Funding adjusted by evaluators to impact 50 public libraries

Goals: To introduce wireless connectivity in 100 (reduced by evaluators to 50) public libraries. This will enable public libraries to be connection points between the MLTI and the community, between the general public and new and more powerful means of providing public access to the wealth of online information.

1. Wireless connectivity in local public libraries building upon the Maine Learning Technology Initiative extending in time and space the availability of online information resources brought to students by MLTI. It gives a community –wide dimension to educational information access.
2. Public Internet access in and through libraries is enhanced by making it easier for libraries to configure existing equipment and deploy additional public access equipment without constraints imposed by existing wiring and the architectural and cost barriers to rewiring. In addition, libraries are beginning to take on a role as a source of instruction and learning for the adult, out of school public. Wireless furthers this role.
3. While dial-up connectivity is fairly widespread among citizens owning computers, high speed access is considerably less common, both for lack of availability in some communities and for reasons of cost. This project allows libraries interested in offering services in this area the opportunity to develop generalized walk-in connectivity services and make them available to any local resident with a portable computing device.

Budget: Equipment for each site 1 wireless access point	\$500
1 laptop with preconfigured wireless interface card	\$1,400
4 802.11b wireless interface cards	\$400

100 sites = \$230,000

50 sites = \$120,000